

to be Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office; that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table; that any statements related to the nomination be printed in the RECORD; and that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Katherine Vidal, of California, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the nomination.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Vidal nomination?

The nomination was confirmed.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session and be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

CONSOLIDATED APPROPRIATIONS ACT

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that this letter to the Senate Archivist be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

CHARLES E. GRASSLEY,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE EMERITUS,
Washington, DC, April 1, 2022.

KAREN D. PAUL,
*Senate Archivist, Senate Historical Office,
Washington, DC.*

DEAR MS. PAUL: I understand that you have been charged with implementing a provision in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2022 that offered a very limited number of senators up to \$2.5 million each for the preservation of their records. This is a shocking amount of money, well beyond what could possibly be necessary for processing and preserving records, even for long serving senators with a lot of records. On September 22, 2021, my staff alerted the Senate Legislative Branch Appropriations Subcommittee of my decision not to accept any of the funding being proposed. It was my understanding at that time that the Appropriations Committee would reduce the funding appropriated accordingly.

With a budget deficit for the current fiscal year expected to be well over \$1 Trillion, and ballooning debt that is on pace to reach an all-time record as a share of our economy within 10 years, spending millions of taxpayer dollars on a handful of senators'

records cannot be justified. The tradition in the Senate is for academic institutions to agree to store and manage former senators' records as part of their academic mission. Some senators seek to go beyond simple preservations of records and establish centers to perpetuate their legacy. However, funds for new facilities or other functions beyond simply storing records are traditionally raised privately. The taxpayers should NOT be on the hook for senators' legacy projects. As a working senator, I am not focused on my legacy. I often say that my legacy will be decided by historians decades into the future with the benefit of hindsight. As such, my legacy is not something I can or should worry about.

Again, I did not seek these funds and I oppose their expenditure. I ask that you not transmit paperwork to the future repository of my records. I also ask that any funding that is eligible to be spent on the preservation of my records remain in the Treasury to reduce the deficit.

Sincerely,

CHUCK GRASSLEY,
United States Senator.

PS: Read and signed by this Senator.

NOMINATION OF KETANJI BROWN JACKSON

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Madam President, I rise today in support of the nomination of Ketanji Brown Jackson to be an Associate Justice on the U.S. Supreme Court. I have had the privilege of serving in this body for nearly three decades now.

In that time, I have participated in the confirmation hearings of 10 Supreme Court Justices and hundreds of nominees to our Federal circuit and district courts. I have carefully scrutinized Judge Jackson's record and listened very closely to her testimony. In my view, Judge Jackson is both well qualified and extremely prepared to take on the important role of serving on the U.S. Supreme Court.

Judge Jackson is a graduate of both Harvard University and Harvard Law School, a former Supreme Court clerk, a former Federal public defender, and a former U.S. Sentencing Commissioner. On top of that, Judge Jackson has served as a federal judge for nearly a decade.

Judge Jackson would be the first Federal public defender to sit on the Supreme Court and the first Justice since Thurgood Marshall with significant experience representing low-income defendants in criminal cases. As a former public defender, Judge Jackson truly understands the power of our constitutional rights, including the Sixth Amendment right to counsel and the Fifth Amendment right to due process. Judge Jackson would also join Justice Sotomayor as the only former Federal district court judges serving on the Supreme Court.

What has impressed me most about Judge Jackson does not appear on her resume. That is Judge Jackson's steadfast commitment to the fair and impartial application of the law, her deep knowledge of the U.S. Constitution, and her remarkable judicial temperament. These qualities were dem-

onstrated in her testimony before the Judiciary Committee earlier this month. They were also shown in the letters and testimony of the many people—of all ideological viewpoints—who have supported Judge Jackson's nomination.

First, Judge Jackson's respect for the law and the Constitution are clear from the nearly 600 legal opinions she has drafted as a Federal judge. Her legal opinions are clear and detailed. As she explained during her confirmation hearings, Judge Jackson carefully and fairly applies the law to the specific facts of each case. And Judge Jackson takes the time to explain why she reached each decision. In my view, it is important that the decisions of the Supreme Court are accessible to the American people. Judge Jackson's approach to judicial decision-making will help to ensure transparency in her judging and help to restore the public's confidence in the decisions of the Supreme Court.

Second, Judge Jackson clearly has deep legal knowledge. During her more than 20 hours of testimony before the Judiciary Committee, she spoke with skill on a wide range of topics. She addressed legal issues of all kinds, including separation of powers, the First Amendment, administrative law, criminal sentencing, and much more. I believe Judge Jackson has the knowledge and expertise to decide the most difficult and pressing legal issues facing this Nation.

Finally, during her hearings, Judge Jackson also showed that she has a remarkable temperament. Lawyers and judges who have worked with her, or appeared before her, have confirmed that Judge Jackson brings this temperament with her in all aspects of her work. They have told the Senate that she is as collegial, calm, and steadfast as she appeared to be during her hearings.

For example, Judge Thomas Griffith testified in support of Judge Jackson's nomination and focused on her character and temperament, in addition to her exceptional qualifications. Judge Griffith is a retired judge of the D.C. Circuit and was appointed to the bench by President George W. Bush. Judge Griffith said that Judge Jackson has modeled the ideal qualities of a judge, including diligence, carefulness, high character, deep legal knowledge, and broad experience.

Witnesses from the American Bar Association also testified about Judge Jackson's sterling reputation for integrity. Those witnesses interviewed lawyers and judges who have known and worked with Judge Jackson at various points over the course of her career. And, in those interviews, lawyers and judges who were familiar with Judge Jackson uniformly praised her character. They called her "first rate," "impeccable," and "beyond reproach." One comment said: "You write the word 'integrity,' and then you put her initials next to it."